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MICHIGAN LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Vol. XLI No. 12 December 1985

JOB SERVICE

Michigan Employment Security Commission

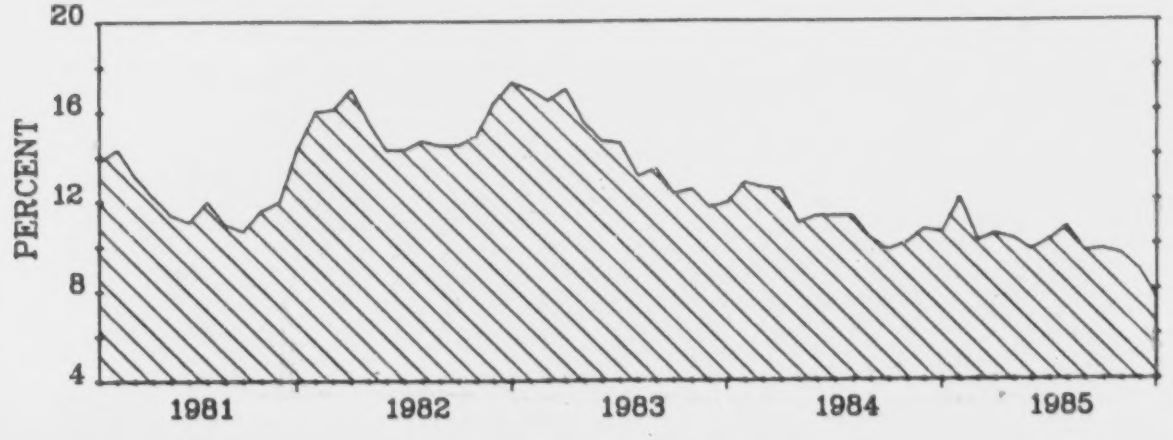
MICHIGAN'S JOBLESS RATE FALLS TO SIX YEAR LOW

The Michigan unemployment rate dropped by 1.3 percentage points as the jobless rate fell from 8.9 percent in November to 7.6 percent in December. The state's current jobless rate is the lowest level recorded since ~~December 1979~~ when it registered ~~8.5~~ percent. Approximately 329,000 workers in the state were unemployed during the month. The decrease in the level of joblessness was primarily the result of seasonal job gains in both retail trade and service related industries. Total employment in December increased by 42,000 to reach 4,026,000, while the statewide civilian labor force experienced a decline of 19,000 to total 4,355,000. When compared to a year ago, employment in Michigan has increased by 180,000, while the size of the labor force has grown by 53,000. In December 1984, the total number of persons out of work amounted to 455,000 representing an unemployment rate of 10.6 percent.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES EXPAND DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Wage and salary employment in Michigan increased as industry jobs inched upward to 3,523,900 in December. Employment opportunities inched upward by approximately 8,300 from November to December, as increases were evident in the service producing sector of the economy. Total goods producing employment at 1,080,400, dropped by 800 as a result of decreased activity in the construction and mining industries. Service producing positions climbed by 9,100 to 2,443,400 during the month, as retail establishments increased payrolls in preparation for the holiday season. Since December 1984, industry employment in Michigan has climbed by 116,500 positions or 3.4 percent. Approximately 98,300 service producing jobs have been added throughout the year, while goods producing industries accounted for increases of 18,000.

MICHIGAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (1981–1985)



Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Estimates

State of Michigan

ITEM	DEC 1985*	NOV 1985	OCT 1985	DEC 1984
PLACE OF RESIDENCE				
Civilian Labor Force	4355.0	4374.0	4337.0	4302.0
Employment	4026.0	3984.0	3922.0	3846.0
Unemployment	329.0	390.0	414.0	455.0
Rate	7.6	8.9	9.6	10.6
PLACE OF WORK				
Wage and Salary Employment	3523.8	3515.5	3506.6	3407.3
Good Producing Industries	1080.4	1081.2	1083.3	1062.4
Construction and Mining	110.6	117.4	117.3	96.8
Mining	9.3	9.5	8.6	8.9
Construction	101.3	107.9	108.7	87.9
Manufacturing	969.8	963.8	966.0	965.6
Durable Goods	763.8	758.4	758.1	764.4
Lumber and Wood Products	11.3	11.5	11.8	11.6
Furniture and Fixtures	27.3	27.0	27.0	26.4
Metals	168.5	167.6	168.3	170.6
Primary Metals	50.8	50.3	50.7	52.2
Fabricated Metals	117.7	117.3	117.6	118.4
Nonelectrical Machinery	132.7	132.8	133.0	132.5
Electrical Machinery	34.4	33.8	33.6	32.6
Transportation Equipment	353.3	349.0	347.7	354.5
Other Durable Goods	36.3	36.7	36.7	36.2
Nondurable Goods	206.0	205.4	207.9	201.2
Food and Kindred Products	46.6	46.2	48.9	44.1
Textiles and Apparel	20.7	20.5	20.6	21.0
Paper and Allied Products	20.5	20.4	20.3	20.6
Printing and Publishing	36.7	36.7	36.7	35.8
Chemicals and Petroleum	42.6	42.5	42.6	42.8
Other Nondurable Goods	38.9	39.1	38.8	36.9
Service Producing Industries	2443.4	2434.3	2423.2	2345.1
Trans., Comm. and Utilities	142.3	141.7	141.3	137.8
Wholesale Trade	182.2	180.7	179.8	174.8
Retail Trade	618.5	609.5	606.0	603.4
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	161.2	161.2	160.2	155.2
Services	742.7	738.7	738.8	702.7
Government	596.5	602.5	597.1	571.2
Federal	58.9	58.1	57.9	57.4
State	150.8	154.8	153.7	134.1
Local	386.8	389.6	385.6	379.6
Labor Disputes	1.6	0.9	3.7	0.7

* Indicates a labor-management dispute in the industry.

Notes: Data expressed in thousands. Current month data are preliminary.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE data are based on the monthly Current Population Survey of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — 1984 Benchmark.

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT is based on a monthly sample of employing establishments as part of the co-operative federal-state Current Employment Statistics program — March 1984 Benchmark.

CLAIMS ACTIVITY

Individuals collecting regular unemployment benefits increased during the month of December. The regular benefits claims load averaged 121,000 per week during the month, approximately 21,360 more than the November total. In December 1984, the number of claimants drawing benefits under the regular benefit program averaged 131,980.

In addition, due to the expiration of the Federal Supplemental Compensation (FSC) program on March 31, 1985, all claimants have exhausted their (FSC) benefit entitlement. The Extended Benefit (EB) program ended on May 21,1983, thereby disqualifying claimants from collecting benefits under that program.

WEEKLY CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Week Ending	Regular Program			Federal Supplemental Compensation		
	Total	Initial	Cont'd	Total	Initial	Cont'd
December 07, 1985	107,900	16,900	91,000	0	0	0
December 14, 1985	123,800	19,800	104,000	0	0	0
December 21, 1985	123,600	19,800	103,800	0	0	0
December 28, 1985	128,700	29,700	99,000	0	0	0

DETROIT AREA COST OF LIVING REMAINS THE SAME

The Detroit metropolitan area cost of living remained unchanged at 323.1 from November to December. Increases in the price of transportation, food and beverages and medical care were offset by decreases in apparel, housing and entertainment. Prices in the area climbed by 4.5 percent since December 1984, when the consumer price index stood at 309.1.

At the national level, the cost of living rose by two tenths of a percent to reach 327.4 during the month. The higher national prices were due to additional costs for food and beverages and fuel oil. Between December 1984 and December 1985, national consumer prices increased by 3.8 percent. One year ago, the national index registered 315.5.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

The average workweek of Michigan workers in manufacturing industries increased to 44.6 hours in December. The increase was shared by all manufacturing industries, with nonelectrical machinery registering the largest gain.

During the month average hourly earnings climbed by thirteen cents to $12.84, while average weekly earnings increased by $33.76 to total $572.66. In December 1984, earnings averaged $12.64 an hour or $562.48 per week for a 44.5 hour workweek.

MICHIGAN'S HOURS AND EARNINGS

Industry	Average Hourly Earnings a/			Average Weekly Hours a/			Average Weekly Earnings a/		
	Dec 1985	Nov 1985	Dec 1984	Dec 1985	Nov 1985	Dec 1984	Dec 1985	Nov 1985	Dec 1984
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	$12.84	$12.71	$12.64	44.6	42.4	44.5	$572.66	$538.90	$562.48
DURABLE GOODS	13.40	13.28	13.14	44.9	42.7	44.9	601.66	567.06	589.99
Primary Metal Products	12.17	12.28	12.07	45.0	43.0	40.6	547.65	528.04	490.04
Fabricated Metal Products	12.95	12.85	12.30	44.2	42.1	45.5	572.39	540.98	559.65
Nonelectrical Machinery	12.92	12.72	12.53	44.8	41.8	44.3	578.82	531.70	555.08
Electrical Machinery	11.00	10.91	10.76	44.2	41.3	43.0	486.20	450.58	462.68
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	14.90	14.77	14.77	45.7	43.7	46.3	680.93	645.45	683.85
NONDURABLE GOODS	10.59	10.46	10.54	43.3	41.4	42.5	458.55	433.04	447.95
Contract Construction	15.62	15.15	14.82	38.7	35.7	37.1	604.49	540.85	549.82
Department Stores	6.65	6.46	6.06	28.7	28.0	30.3	190.85	180.88	183.62

a/ *Average weekly and hourly earnings are computed from aggregates of individual establishment reports utilizing the total amount paid to production workers and total production hours. Average weekly and hourly earnings differ from weekly and hourly rates in that they are affected by overtime wage rates, part-time earnings, the length of the workweek, etc.*

Note: *Current month data are preliminary.*

Labor Surplus Areas Eligible for Federal Procurement Preference From October 1, 1985 through September 30, 1986

Eligible Labor Surplus Areas	Political Jurisdiction(s) Included
Alcona County	Alcona County
Alger County	Alger County
Allegan County	Allegan County
Alpena County	Alpena County
Antrim County	Antrim County
Arenac County	Arenac County
Baraga County	Baraga County
Barry County	Barry County
Battle Creek City	Battle Creek City in Calhoun County
Bay County	Bay County
Benzie County	Benzie County
Berrien County	Berrien County
Branch County	Branch County
Calhoun County, Balance of	Calhoun County, less Battle Creek City
Cass County	Cass County
Charlevoix County	Charlevoix County
Cheboygan County	Cheboygan County
Chippewa County	Chippewa County
Clare County	Clare County
Clinton Township	Clinton Township in Macomb County
Crawford County	Crawford County
Delta County	Delta County
Detroit City	Detroit City in Wayne County
Dickinson County	Dickinson County
Emmet County	Emmet County
Flint City	Flint City in Genesee County
Genessee County, Balance of	Genesee County less Flint City
Gladwin County	Gladwin County
Gogebic County	Gogebic County
Grand Rapids City	Grand Rapids City in Kent County
Grand Traverse County	Grand Traverse County
Gratiot County	Gratiot County
Hillsdale County	Hillsdale County
Houghton County	Houghton County
Huron County	Huron County
Ionia County	Ionia County
Iosco County	Iosco County
Iron County	Iron County
Jackson County	Jackson County
Kalamazoo City	Kalamazoo City in Kalamazoo County
Kalkaska County	Kalkaska County
Keweenaw County	Keweenaw County
Lake County	Lake County
Lansing City	Lansing City in Ingham and Eaton Counties
Lapeer County	Lapeer County
Leelanau County	Leelanau County
Lenawee County	Lenawee County
Livingston County	Livingston County
Luce County	Luce County
Mackinac County	Mackinac County
Macomb County, Balance of	Macomb County less Clinton Township, Roseville City, St. Clair Shores City, Sterling Heights City, Warren City
Manistee County	Manistee County
Marquette County	Marquette County
Mason County	Mason County
Mecosta County	Mecosta County
Menominee County	Menominee County
Midland County	Midland County
Missaukee County	Missaukee County
Monroe County	Monroe County
Montcalm County	Montcalm County
Montmorency County	Montmorency County
Muskegon County	Muskegon County
Newaygo County	Newaygo County
Oakland County, Balance of	Oakland County less Farmington Hills City Pontiac City, Royal Oak City, Southfield City, Troy City, Waterford Township
Oceana County	Oceana County
Ogemaw County	Ogemaw County
Ontonagon County	Ontonagon County
Osceola County	Osceola County
Oscoda County	Oscoda County
Otsego County	Otsego County
Pontiac City	Pontiac City in Oakland County
Presque Isle County	Presque Isle County
Roscommon County	Roscommon County
Roseville City	Roseville City in Macomb County
Saginaw City	Saginaw City in Saginaw County
Saginaw County, Balance of	Saginaw County less Saginaw City
St. Clair County	St. Clair County
St. Clair Shores City	St. Clair Shores City in Macomb County
St. Joseph County	St. Joseph County
Sanilac County	Sanilac County
Schoolcraft County	Schoolcraft County
Shiawassee County	Shiawassee County
Sterling Heights City	Sterling Heights City in Macomb County
Taylor City	Taylor City in Wayne County
Tuscola County	Tuscola County
Van Buren County	Van Buren County
Warren City	Warren City in Macomb County
Washtenaw County, Balance of	Washtenaw County less Ann Arbor City
Waterford Township	Waterford Township in Oakland County
Wayne County, Balance of	Wayne County less Dearborn City, Detroit City, Livonia City, Redford Township, Taylor City, Westland City
Westland City	Westland City in Wayne County
Wexford County	Wexford County

Source: Michigan Employment Security Commission — Bureau of Research and Statistics

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT
SECURITY COMMISSION
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MICHIGAN LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Vol. XLII No. 1 January 1986

JOB SERVICE
Michigan Employment Security Commission

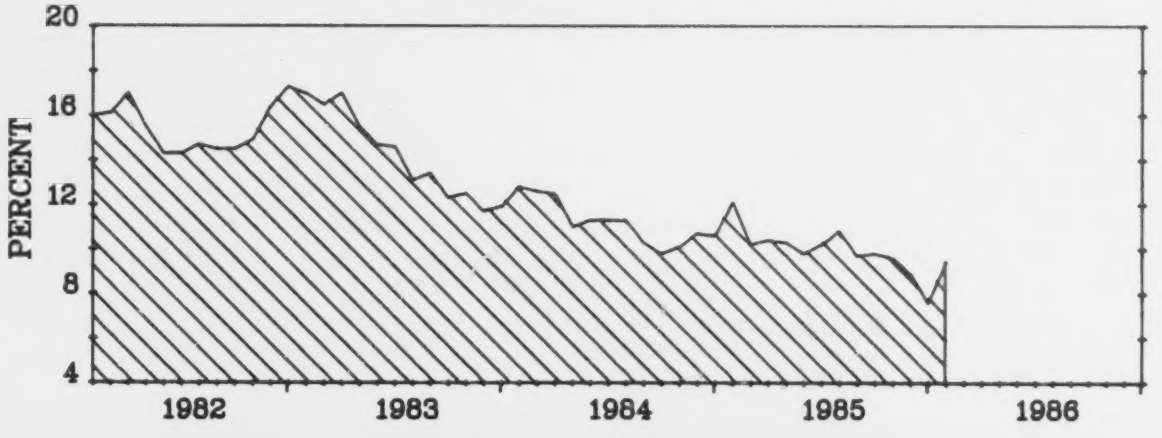
SEASONAL CUTBACKS FORCE STATEWIDE JOBLESS RATE UP

Unemployment in Michigan jumped as the jobless rate increased from 7.6 percent in December to 9.4 percent in January. The rise in joblessness represents an additional 75,000 individuals out of work, as total state residents seeking employment climbed to 404,000. The increase in joblessness was primarily a result of seasonal retail layoffs and temporary auto cutbacks. Total employment in January registered a significant decline as the number of employed state residents dropped by 113,000 to fall to 3,913,000. Subsequently, the loss of seasonal job holders reduced the state's civilian labor force by 38,000 to 4,317,000. Compared with a year ago, employment in Michigan has rebounded by 138,000, while the size of the labor force has expanded by 24,000. In January 1985, the total number of persons out of work amounted to 518,000, representing an unemployment rate of 12.1 percent.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES SLIP DOWNWARD

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in Michigan decreased as industry jobs slid to 3,511,300 in January. Employment opportunities dropped by approximately 77,400 from December to January, as decreases were evident in all three sectors of the economy. Total goods producing employment at 1,090,000, fell by 20,500 as a result of decreased activity in the construction industry due to normal seasonal factors. Service producing positions fell by 57,000 to 2,421,200 during the month, as retail establishments furloughed holiday workers. Government employment decreased by 16,000 as a result of holiday cutbacks at local educational facilities. Since January 1985, industry employment in Michigan has climbed by 97,900 positions or 2.9 percent. Approximately 84,600 service producing jobs have been added throughout the year, while goods producing industries accounted for increases of 13,300.

MICHIGAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (1982–1986)



Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Estimates
State of Michigan

ITEM	JAN 1986	DEC 1985	NOV 1985	JAN 1985
PLACE OF RESIDENCE				
Civilian Labor Force	4317.0	4355.0	4374.0	4293.0
Employment	3913.0	4026.0	3984.0	3775.0
Unemployment	404.0	329.0	390.0	518.0
Rate	9.4	7.6	8.9	12.1
PLACE OF WORK				
Wage and Salary Employment	3511.3	3588.7	3578.0	3413.4
Good Producing Industries	1090.0	1110.5	1111.0	1076.7
Construction and Mining	101.4	117.5	124.3	90.0
Mining	10.1	10.3	10.6	9.6
Construction	91.3	107.2	113.7	80.4
Manufacturing	988.6	993.0	986.7	986.7
Durable Goods	774.2	777.1	771.6	775.6
Lumber and Wood Products	11.4	11.9	12.1	12.2
Furniture and Fixtures	26.6	26.3	25.9	25.2
Metals	172.2	172.1	171.1	175.2
Primary Metals	52.2	51.3	50.7	53.0
Fabricated Metals	120.0	120.8	120.4	122.2
Nonelectrical Machinery	131.8	131.5	131.6	131.8
Electrical Machinery	36.1	36.2	35.5	35.4
Transportation Equipment	357.2	359.6	355.3	357.0
Other Durable Goods	38.9	39.5	40.1	38.8
Nondurable Goods	214.4	215.9	215.2	211.1
Food and Kindred Products	44.6	45.8	45.3	44.7
Textiles and Apparel	21.7	21.8	21.5	22.2
Paper and Allied Products	20.9	20.7	20.6	21.0
Printing and Publishing	39.1	38.7	38.8	37.9
Chemicals and Petroleum	42.7	43.5	43.4	43.2
Other Nondurable Goods	45.4	45.4	45.6	42.1
Service Producing Industries	2421.2	2478.2	2466.9	2336.6
Trans., Comm. and Utilities	143.3	145.2	144.3	138.6
Wholesale Trade	177.0	177.8	176.4	173.3
Retail Trade	601.5	632.7	621.9	583.0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	163.5	164.0	163.9	156.8
Services	753.8	759.7	755.6	715.6
Government	582.1	598.8	604.8	569.3
Federal	58.7	58.7	57.9	56.8
State	146.6	151.2	155.2	143.4
Local	376.9	388.9	391.8	369.2
Labor Disputes	0.4	1.9	0.9	0.5

* Indicates a labor-management dispute in the industry.

Notes: Data expressed in thousands. Current month data are preliminary.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE data are based on the monthly Current Population Survey of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — 1985 Benchmark.

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT is based on a monthly sample of employing establishments as part of the co-operative federal-state Current Employment Statistics program — March 1985 Benchmark.

CLAIMS ACTIVITY

The number of individuals collecting regular unemployment benefits continued to rise during the month of January. The regular benefits claims load averaged 160,250 per week during the month, an increase of 39,250 or 32 percent from the December figure. The regular benefits claims load has been steadily rising since October 1985, while peaking in January due to temporary auto layoffs and seasonal job losses in retail trade. In January 1985, the number of claimants drawing benefits under the regular benefit program averaged 164,975. Additionally, due to the expiration of both the Extended Benefit (EB) and Federal Supplemental Compensation (FSC) programs, claimants are disqualified from collecting benefits under either program.

WEEKLY CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Week Ending	Regular Benefit Program		
	Total	Initial	Continued
January 04, 1986	151,300	23,900	127,400
January 11, 1986	174,200	27,800	146,400
January 18, 1986	157,800	20,200	137,600
January 25, 1986	157,700	17,400	140,300

1985 BENCHMARK RELEASED

The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a monthly sample based survey of households which provides Michigan with state estimates of employment, unemployment and civilian labor force data. Each year, the monthly CPS labor force and unemployment estimates for Michigan are revised to new population controls. Consequently, estimates for labor market areas must also be adjusted annually to the new state totals.

Additionally, the benchmark procedure also involves the adjustment of industry employment estimates. These estimates which are based on a monthly sample of employers, are revised annually to the total count of covered employers under the Michigan Employment Security Act. The data in this newsletter reflect the March 1985 wage and salary employment benchmark and the CPS adjustments for Michigan and the local area.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

The average workweek of Michigan workers in manufacturing industries decreased to 43.5 hours in January. The decrease was shared by all manufacturing industries, with electrical machinery and transportation equipment registering the largest losses.

During the month average hourly earnings climbed by one cent to $12.82, while average weekly earnings decreased by $12.37 to total $557.67. In January 1985, earnings averaged $12.62 an hour or $552.76 per week for a 43.8 hour workweek.

MICHIGAN'S HOURS AND EARNINGS

Industry	Average Hourly Earnings a/			Average Weekly Hours a/			Average Weekly Earnings a/		
	Jan 1986	Dec 1985	Jan 1985	Jan 1986	Dec 1985	Jan 1985	Jan 1986	Dec 1985	Jan 1985
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	$12.82	$12.81	$12.62	43.5	44.5	43.8	$557.67	$570.04	$552.76
DURABLE GOODS	13.40	13.39	13.16	43.9	44.9	44.2	588.26	601.21	581.67
Primary Metal Products	12.27	12.14	12.00	44.2	45.0	40.9	542.33	546.30	490 80
Fabricated Metal Products	12.91	12.96	12.36	43.5	44.2	44.2	561.58	572.83	546.31
Nonelectrical Machinery	12.82	12.96	12.43	44.5	44.9	43.7	570.49	581.90	543.19
Electrical Machinery	10.87	11.01	10.53	42.5	44.1	41.5	461.97	485.54	436.99
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	14.98	14.89	14.84	44.6	45.7	45.9	668.11	680.47	681.16
NONDURABLE GOODS	10.50	10.54	10.44	41.8	43.3	42.2	438.90	456.38	440.57
Contract Construction	15.84	15.67	14.95	38.4	38.7	36.3	608.26	606.43	542.68
Department Stores	6.35	6.65	6.16	26.4	28.7	26.2	167.64	190.85	161.39

a/ Average weekly and hourly earnings are computed from aggregates of individual establishment reports utilizing the total amount paid to production workers and total production hours. Average weekly and hourly earnings differ from weekly and hourly rates in that they are affected by overtime wage rates, part-time earnings, the length of the workweek, etc.

Note: *Current month data are preliminary.*

Labor Surplus Areas Eligible for Federal Procurement Preference From October 1, 1985 through September 30, 1986

Eligible Labor Surplus Areas	Political Jurisdiction(s) Included
Alcona County	Alcona County
Alger County	Alger County
Allegan County	Allegan County
Alpena County	Alpena County
Antrim County	Antrim County
Arenac County	Arenac County
Baraga County	Baraga County
Barry County	Barry County
Battle Creek City	Battle Creek City in Calhoun County
Bay County	Bay County
Benzie County	Benzie County
Berrien County	Berrien County
Branch County	Branch County
Calhoun County, Balance of	Calhoun County, less Battle Creek City
Cass County	Cass County
Charlevoix County	Charlevoix County
Cheboygan County	Cheboygan County
Chippewa County	Chippewa County
Clare County	Clare County
Clinton Township	Clinton Township in Macomb County
Crawford County	Crawford County
Delta County	Delta County
Detroit City	Detroit City in Wayne County
Dickinson County	Dickinson County
Emmet County	Emmet County
Flint City	Flint City in Genesee County
Genessee County, Balance of	Genesee County less Flint City
Gladwin County	Gladwin County
Gogebic County	Gogebic County
Grand Rapids City	Grand Rapids City in Kent County
Grand Traverse County	Grand Traverse County
Gratiot County	Gratiot County
Hillsdale County	Hillsdale County
Houghton County	Houghton County
Huron County	Huron County
Ionia County	Ionia County
Iosco County	Iosco County
Iron County	Iron County
Jackson County	Jackson County
Kalamazoo City	Kalamazoo City in Kalamazoo County
Kalkaska County	Kalkaska County
Keweenaw County	Keweenaw County
Lake County	Lake County
Lansing City	Lansing City in Ingham and Eaton Counties
Lapeer County	Lapeer County
Leelanau County	Leelanau County
Lenawee County	Lenawee County
Livingston County	Livingston County
Luce County	Luce County
Mackinac County	Mackinac County
Macomb County, Balance of	Macomb County less Clinton Township, Roseville City, St. Clair Shores City, Sterling Heights City, Warren City
Manistee County	Manistee County
Marquette County	Marquette County
Mason County	Mason County
Mecosta County	Mecosta County
Menominee County	Menominee County
Midland County	Midland County
Missaukee County	Missaukee County
Monroe County	Monroe County
Montcalm County	Montcalm County
Montmorency County	Montmorency County
Muskegon County	Muskegon County
Newaygo County	Newaygo County
Oakland County, Balance of	Oakland County less Farmington Hills City Pontiac City, Royal Oak City, Southfield City, Troy City, Waterford Township
Oceana County	Oceana County
Ogemaw County	Ogemaw County
Ontonagon County	Ontonagon County
Osceola County	Osceola County
Oscoda County	Oscoda County
Otsego County	Otsego County
Pontiac City	Pontiac City in Oakland County
Presque Isle County	Presque Isle County
Roscommon County	Roscommon County
Roseville City	Roseville City in Macomb County
Saginaw City	Saginaw City in Saginaw County
Saginaw County, Balance of	Saginaw County less Saginaw City
St. Clair County	St. Clair County
St. Clair Shores City	St. Clair Shores City in Macomb County
St. Joseph County	St. Joseph County
Sanilac County	Sanilac County
Schoolcraft County	Schoolcraft County
Shiawassee County	Shiawassee County
Sterling Heights City	Sterling Heights City in Macomb County
Taylor City	Taylor City in Wayne County
Tuscola County	Tuscola County
Van Buren County	Van Buren County
Warren City	Warren City in Macomb County
Washtenaw County, Balance of	Washtenaw County less Ann Arbor City
Waterford Township	Waterford Township in Oakland County
Wayne County, Balance of	Wayne County less Dearborn City, Detroit City, Livonia City, Redford Township, Taylor City, Westland City
Westland City	Westland City in Wayne County
Wexford County	Wexford County

Source: Michigan Employment Security Commission — Bureau of Research and Statistics

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT
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